



Soup Helps Feed a Village in Kyrgyzstan



Photo: CitiHope

A Kyrgyz boy receives a nutritious lunch, thanks to CitiHope and Breedlove Foods as part of USAID's Food For Peace program.

In 2000, the U.S. Congress passed the International Food Relief Partnerships legislation in an effort to expand USAID's current base of humanitarian food aid relief partners. In support of this new legislation, USAID began working with Breedlove Dehydrated Foods in Lubbock, Texas in the preparation and storage of shelf-stable and pre-packaged dried vegetable soup mix.

The soup is distributed worldwide to help feed families in need through a network of non-governmental organizations including CitiHope International (CHI), which distributes the soup mix in Kyrgyzstan. CHI helps to address issues of food insecurity by delivering food to institutions such as regional hospitals, orphanages, nursing homes, mental institutions, charity centers, tuberculosis (TB) institutions, and prison systems. This program not only provides vitamin-enriched supplementary meals, but also helps to offset financial pressures experienced by the region's healthcare system. Since many recipient institutions have not received regular government funding or have experienced crippling budget cuts, USAID's program provides an essential relief.

Osh Regional TB hospital is one of 80 institutions receiving food assistance under CHI's IFRP grant award in Kyrgyzstan. This institution is providing one vitamin-enriched, supplementary serving of the Breedlove commodity to an estimated 1,400 patients every day for approximately six months. One doctor at Osh Regional TB hospital commented on the impact of the IFRP assistance, "We are now able to reduce the amount of vitamin supplements we were previously providing patients because their requirements are contained in the soup product which we now serve."

Success Story

